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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending May 4, 2003, rainfall and wet soil conditions again limited fieldwork activities, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Moisture received continued to benefit wheat, pastures and alfalfa. However, heavy rains on Sunday combined with hail resulted in lowland flooding in east central Nebraska.

This release is based on reports and data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Current county specific comments plus current and historic PDF files of Weather and Crop reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm

Weather Summary: Temperatures ranged from three degrees below normals to two degrees above normals for the week. Precipitation was statewide and ranged to over four inches in locations of the Central and Northeast districts.

Field Crops Report: Corn planting made limited progress last week and was 33 percent complete. This is about a week behind last year at 52 percent and a few days behind average at 44. Five percent of the fields had shown emergence, compared with 8 last year and 7 average.

Wheat condition continued to improve last week and rated 7 percent poor, 34 fair, 47 good, and 12 excellent,

well above last year and near the 5 year average. Sixty-one percent of the crop had jointed, 10 days ahead of last year at 31 and a week ahead of average at 41.

Soybean planting was underway in several areas of the state with 3 percent of the acreage seeded. This compared to 9 percent last year and 7 average.

Oat seedings progressed to 94 percent complete, behind last year at 96 but the same as average. Seventy-seven percent had emerged and compares with 80 last year and 71 average.

Sugar beet planting progressed in the Panhandle and Southwest districts to 83 percent complete, compared to 91 last year.

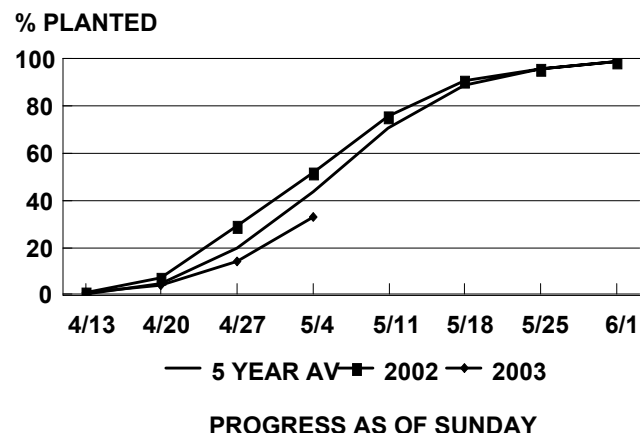
Alfalfa conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 7 poor, 30 fair, 47 good, and 15 excellent. Alfalfa weevils were being sprayed for control in some southeastern fields.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition continued to improve and rated 13 percent very poor, 23 poor, 37 fair, 23 good, and 4 excellent but remains below a year ago and average. Cattle and calf conditions were mostly good, although the wet weather has caused scours in some young calves. Pastures are greening with some producers considering moving cattle out to graze.

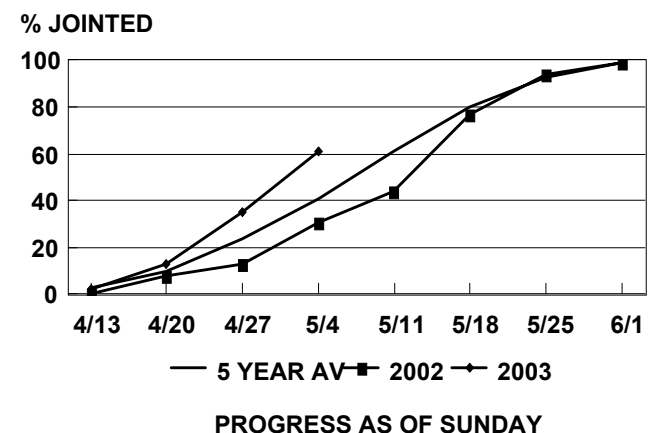
Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of May 4, 2003

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Planted	22	52	21	17	51	10	15	56	33	14	52	44
% Corn Emerged	2	3	1	2	7	0	1	15	5	1	8	7
% Soybeans Planted	0	3	0	0	6	0	0	2	3	1	9	7
% Wheat Jointed	61	60	29	70	44	63	50	40	61	35	31	41
% Oats Planted	76	98	100	95	94	94	96	99	94	87	96	94
% Oats Emerged	44	86	85	85	75	73	84	84	77	51	80	71
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	2.5	2.5	2.7	1.0	2.8	1.6	1.6	2.6	2.3	3.2	4.5	4.2
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	19	8
- % Short	9	0	2	3	10	7	2	25	7	17	25	18
- % Adequate	90	100	75	36	69	93	97	70	84	77	55	66
- % Surplus	1	0	23	61	21	0	1	2	9	2	1	8
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	19	7	3	1	18	8	21	38	14	34	19	13
- % Short	48	27	42	35	40	58	54	38	42	44	41	23
- % Adequate	33	66	47	64	42	34	25	24	43	22	40	61
- % Surplus	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3

CORN



WHEAT



Map of the United States showing the number of states in each region that have a specific number of electoral votes. The map is divided into regions, and each state is labeled with its number of electoral votes. The regions are: Northeast, Midwest, South, and West. The number of states in each region with a specific number of electoral votes is shown in the map.

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.97	2.08	2.96	2.44	2.30	1.78	1.51	1.08
Total since April 1	2.57	4.54	4.82	5.78	4.19	4.82	4.45	3.46
Normal since April 1	2.14	2.51	2.98	2.84	3.19	2.28	2.53	3.26
Total as % of normal	119%	182%	161%	203%	131%	212%	175%	106%

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, May 4, 2003

Station		Temperature			
		Extremes		Average	Departure
		High	Low		
NW	Alliance	66	33	48	-3
	Scottsbluff	72	35	52	0
	Sidney	71	36	51	-1
NC	Ainsworth	69	39	52	-2
	Arthur	70	38	51	-2
	O'Neill	70	42	53	-3
NE	Concord	73	43	55	-1
	Elgin	70	43	54	-2
	West Point	72	41	55	-2
C	Grand Island	71	38	55	-1
	Lexington	70	39	55	-1
	Ord	71	38	54	-2
EC	Lincoln	84	43	59	0
	Central City	74	40	56	-1
	Mead	74	40	57	-2
SW	Champion	71	40	54	0
	North Platte	73	37	54	0
	Curtis	74	42	57	2
SC	Arapahoe	71	37	52	-2
	Minden	71	40	56	0
	Red Cloud	79	44	59	2
SE	Beatrice	88	44	60	2
	Clay Center	74	40	56	0
	Nemaha	76	47	61	2

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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